

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

14 JUL 1975

Mr. Meyer H. Fishbein, Director
Records Appraisal Staff
Office of the National Archives
National Archives and Records Service
Room 608, National Archives Building
Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20408

Dear Mr. Fishbein:

We are pleased to offer 167 items of OSS motion picture product to the National Archives for accessioning, as listed in Attachment A. These include 161 prints, 34 negatives and 2 master films, covering a wide variety of subject matter. Forty-five of the items were produced by the OSS for unclassified showing. Of the 122 originally produced as classified films, 111 have been declassified by the CIA, and we would have no objection to declassification of the remaining items. It is felt, however, that declassification action on those 11 should take into account the interests of the British in one case, the U.S. Army in three others, and the U.S. Air Force in seven, as shown in Attachment A.

The indexing system (letter-number) used to identify the films in the Attachments and in the cannisters deserves brief explanation since it bears no relation to either subject matter or type of film. These films were accumulated by the CIA in the late 1940's and early 1950's from those elements for which the OSS had produced the films, or which had received the films either as users of the OSS product or as successor elements to the OSS when the latter was hastily disbanded in the postwar demobilization. Thus the index numbers relate only to the period of CIA acquisition. The significance of this is most pointed in items 81-167, all of which were included under the single number H6681 in the central index despite their heterogeneity.



(Apparently the H6681 items were seen at the time of CIA acquisition as having marginal value which didn't warrant the effort required for individual indexing.) As a result, central index precis cards are available with their individual descriptions of items 1-80 (Attachment B), but never existed for items 81-167. Such descriptions as we are able to offer for those items (Attachment C) result from notes taken by participants in the declassification review of those films.

There are no donor restrictions on access to these films. It is our understanding that the Agency will be permitted to borrow them should such a requirement develop in the future.

Arrangements for the physical transfer of the films can be made by contacting [redacted] of my Staff has discussed this offer with [redacted] of the Audiovisual Archives Division.

Sincerely,

[redacted]
Chief
Information Review Staff

Attachments:

- A. List
- B. Precis cards for Items 1-80
- C. Descriptions of Items 81-167

IRS: DGV:dr (11 July 1975)

Distribution:

Original	Addressee
1	CRS/CLD
1	ExSec/SSU
1	DDO [redacted]
1	DDO [redacted]
1	IRS (NARS Gen - 30 Yr.)
1	IRS Chrono
1	ISAS